

6 October 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: James N. Glerum
Director of Personnel

THROUGH : Thomas B. Cormack
Executive Secretary

Charles A. Briggs
Chairman, E Career Service

FROM : J. Kenneth McDonald
Chief, History Staff

SUBJECT : Request Approval for Contract Employment of
Richard L. Lehman, Annuitant, to write
William E. Colby DCI History

REFERENCE : Memorandum for the DCI from Chief, History
Staff dtd 29 April 1982, Subj: DCI Histories:
William Colby et al.

1. As proposed in my referenced 29 April 1982 memorandum to the DCI (copy attached), last May I asked Richard Lehman, retiring Vice-Chairman of the National Intelligence Council, to undertake the History Staff's projected history of William E. Colby's tenure as DCI. Mr. Lehman agreed and is now able to concentrate on this work, his contract with the Office of the DCI for post-retirement NIC work having expired 30 September 1982.

2. I would therefore like to request approval for Mr. Lehman's employment as an independent contractor for a period of twelve months, from 1 October 1982 to 30 September 1983, to research and write a study of Mr. Colby's period as DCI. DCI studies are part of the History Staff's program approved by the Executive Committee 30 October 1981.

3. I shall consult with Mr. Lehman on the scope and focus of his work as he proceeds, and I shall remain responsible for deciding how the completed work will be edited and reviewed. I shall expect the Office of the DCI to provide office space and secretarial support for Mr. Lehman. The completed draft history should be a manuscript of around 200-300 double-spaced type-script pages.

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4. Mr. Lehman is extraordinarily well-qualified to prepare this DCI history, both by his well-known analytical and writing abilities, and by his close working association with Mr. Colby when he was DCI. Mr. Colby and Mr. Casey have both approved the choice of Mr. Lehman for this project.

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J. Kenneth McDonald

Attachment

CONCUR:

Chairman, E Career Service

Date

APPROVED:

Director of Personnel

Date

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- 1 - Executive Secretary
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- 1 - Mr. Lehman
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29 April 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH : Thomas B. Cormack
Executive SecretaryFROM : J. Kenneth McDonald
Chief, History StaffSUBJECT : DCI Histories: William Colby et al.

1. This memorandum is for your information only, and reviews the status of the DCI histories program.

2. As you suggested, I consulted William Colby about our projected history of his tenure as Director of Central Intelligence. He had not known that Richard Lehman was on the verge of retiring, and agreed that he would be an excellent choice to do this study. Moreover, Mr. Colby assured me of his fullest cooperation in this work.

3. For his part, Mr. Lehman is willing to undertake this project, and to begin work as he phases out of his remaining NIC commitments. He has prepared the attached preliminary outline, which he will revise as necessary as his work progresses.

4. Unless you have other desires, I shall ask Mr. Lehman to research and write a complete draft manuscript for this Colby study. I shall consult with him on the scope and focus of the work as it proceeds, and remain responsible for deciding how the work will be edited and reviewed.

5. I shall expect the Office of the DCI to arrange for compensation, office space and secretarial support for Mr. Lehman. He and I will work out appropriate consultant arrangements with the DCI Administrative Officer. From his estimates of the time he can give to this project, Mr. Lehman will need until at least 1 July 1983, and possibly longer, to complete this draft manuscript, which should be around 200-300 double-spaced typescript pages.

6. Since the Colby project will be the third DCI study to get under way, I should also report on the status of the other projected DCI histories:

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a. Schlesinger. [] did excellent service in consulting with Dr. Schlesinger and in collecting Agency material to refresh his memory about his time as DCI. [] completed his part in this project before leaving for Florida in February. I have since both begun my documentary research and conducted several taped interviews with Dr. Schlesinger. I am producing this study on my own, without further outside help.

b. Helms. As my 16 December 1981 memorandum to you noted, I shall be responsible for the final editing of the Helms study, which will include

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contributions from John Bross, R. Jack Smith and myself. Mr. Smith, who is preparing around half of the manuscript, has completed his basic documentary research and is now carrying out a program of interviews with Mr. Helms and his principal assistants. We hope to have a completed draft manuscript for this study by early 1983.

c. McCone. Walter Elder has told me that when he finishes his present assignment he would like to revise his draft history of John McCone's tenure as DCI. Since Mr. Elder was Mr. McCone's Executive Assistant, and later Chief of the History Staff, I would be glad to have him undertake this revision when he becomes available.

d. Raborn. I would like to press on with a study of Admiral Raborn's period as DCI, and I have identified several retired officers who may be able to contribute to this work as Messrs Bross, Smith and Lehman are contributing to the others. Since our present staff of three historians (including me) is already heavily committed to these studies and other projects and functions, I would like to wait until our fourth historian, who is now being cleared, joins the staff before beginning the Raborn study.

7. The History Staff's commitments to its entire program, as approved by the Executive Committee last October, lead me to recommend that we not go beyond the DCI studies projected above at this time. The Helms, Schlesinger and Colby studies will cover the 1966-76 period, while the Raborn and McCone studies will fill the 1961-66 gap back to 1973 study of Allen Dulles. Although I do not think that we should begin studies of the tenures of George Bush and Stansfield Turner until we are further along with the work already under way, I do plan for the History Staff to conduct taped interviews with these two former DCIs and their senior assistants, and to identify the documentation necessary for these histories.

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J. Kenneth McDonald

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Attachment

cc: Richard Lehman, w/attachment
 DCI Admin Officer, w/o attachment

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